

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A bioabsorbable band system for securing a bone fracture, comprising:
a bioabsorbable band;
a first locking system comprising at least one bioabsorbable fastener; and
a second locking system comprising at least one bioabsorbable fastener.
2. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 1, wherein the band is solid.
3. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 1, wherein the band is molded.
4. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 1, wherein the band is at least partially oriented in a longitudinal direction.
5. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 1, wherein the band comprises bioabsorbable fibers.
6. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 5, wherein at least a portion of the bioabsorbable fibers are braided, knitted, twisted, or woven.
7. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 1, wherein the bioabsorbable band further comprises a first end, a flexible body, and a second end.

8. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 7, wherein the second end of the band further comprises a tapered tip.
9. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 8, wherein the tapered tip further comprises a needle attached thereto.
10. (Original) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 7, wherein the first end of the band further comprises a plate.
11. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The bioabsorbable band system of claim 7, wherein the second end of the band further comprises a plate.
12. (Currently Amended) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 1, wherein the first locking system comprises[,] pins, rods, screws, bolts, rivets, tacks, or combinations thereof.
13. (Currently Amended) The bioabsorbable band system of claim 1, wherein the second locking system comprises[,] pins, rods, screws, bolts, rivets, tacks, or combinations thereof.
14. (Currently Amended) A method to secure a bone fracture or osteotomy with ~~the a~~ bioabsorbable band system ~~of claim 7~~, comprising:
 - providing a bioabsorbable band system, comprising:
 - a bioabsorbable band having a first end and a second end;
 - a first locking system comprising at least one bioabsorbable fastener; and
 - a second locking system comprising at least one bioabsorbable fastener;
 - locking the first end of the band to a surface of a bone with the first locking system;

~~passing wrapping the second end of the band through around~~ side edges of a
~~tissue to be drawn together with the bone;~~

tightening the band to secure both sides of the bone fracture together; and
locking the second end of the band to a surface of the bone.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein locking the first end of the band further comprises drilling at least one hole through the first end of the band into the bone, and inserting a fastener in said hole.
16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein locking the second end of the band further comprises drilling at least one hole through the second end of the band and into the bone, and inserting a fastener in said hole.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein drilling further comprises drilling the hole through the first end of the band.
18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein ~~passing wrapping~~ further comprises inserting a needle attached to the second end of the band through ~~the a~~ tissue to be drawn together with the bone.